

Appl. No. 10/781,653
Docket No.: 101-1021
Amdt. Dated February 23, 2006
Reply to Office Action of November 29, 2005

REMARKS

Introduction

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's indication that each of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement of February 20, 2004 have been considered.

Claims 1-15 are pending in the application. No claims have been amended or cancelled. In view of the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of all the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Foreign Priority

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's indication that the foreign priority papers filed on February 20, 2004 have been submitted by the Applicants and have been placed in the file. Applicants further submit herewith certified English translations of the foreign priority papers filed on February 20, 2004 including Korean Patent Application Nos.: 2003-11340 and 2003-11341, which were both filed in the Korean Intellectual Property Office on February 24, 2003. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge the English translations in order to perfect Applicants' claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. §119.

Rejection under 35 USC §103

Claims 1-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0157419 to Miyakawa et al. in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0190543 to Sugiura et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,022,661 to Kurose et al., and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0165761 to Arai et al. Applicants request reconsideration of this rejection for at least the following reason.

Applicants respectfully note that the Arai et al. reference is not prior art under any of the provisions of §102 against the present application. In particular, the Arai et al. reference was filed February 28, 2003 in the U.S. Patent Office and published September 4, 2003, whereas

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the foreign patent applications from which the present application claims priority were filed on February 24, 2003. Thus, the present application antedates the Arai et al. reference.

A rejection based on 102(a) or (e) can be overcome by perfecting a claim to priority. The foreign priority date must antedate the reference. See MPEP 706.02(b). Since the foreign priority date of the present application (February 24, 2003) antedates the effective date of the Arai et al. reference under each provision of §102, Applicants submit that Arai et al. is not applicable prior art under 103(a). Accordingly, withdrawal of the §103 rejection based on Miyakawa et al., Sugiura et al., Kurose et al., and Arai et al., and allowance of claims 1-15 is earnestly solicited by the Applicants'.

Conclusion


It is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, there being no other objections or rejections, this application is in condition for allowance, and a notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 502827.

Respectfully submitted,

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